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December 13, 2011

BRENT ANDERSON, TREASURER
MASSACHUSETTS REPUBLICAN STATE
CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE
85 MERRIMAC ST., SUITE 400
BOSTON, MA 02114

Response Due Date 01/17/2012

**IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00042622** 

REFERENCE: AMENDED 30 DAY POST-GENERAL REPORT (10/14/2010 - 11/22/2010), RECEIVED 09/21/2011

#### Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action. Additional information is needed for the following  $\underline{6}$  item(s):

1. Schedule A of your report (see attached) discloses one or more contributions which appear to exceed the limits set forth in the Act. 2 U.S.C. §441a(f) and 11 CFR §110.1(c) prohibit a State, district or local party committee (combined) from receiving any contribution from a person or non-multicandidate political committee in excess of \$10,000 per calendar year.

If any apparently excessive contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you must amend your original report with the clarifying information.

If any contribution you received exceeds the limits, you may have to refund the excessive amount. The funds can be retained if within 60 days of receipt, (1) the excessive amount was properly reattributed to another person, such as a joint account holder, by obtaining signed written authorizations from each person making the contribution pursuant to 11 CFR 110.1(k)(3), and (2) the treasurer informs the person making the contribution that he or she may request the return of the excessive portion of the contribution if it is not intended to be a joint contribution. Any request from a donor for a refund must be honored.

Alternatively, the funds can be retained if within 60 days of receipt you (1) transferred the excessive amount to an account not used to influence federal

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elections, and (2) provided written notice to the person making the contribution of the option of receiving a refund. Any request from a donor for a refund must be honored.

If the foregoing conditions for reattributions or transfers to a non-federal account were not met within 60 days of receipt, the excessive amount must be refunded.

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of your check for any transfer-out or refund. In addition, any reattributions should be reported as memo entries on Schedule A of the report covering the period during which the authorization for the reattribution is received. Any transfers-out or refunds should be disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 22 or 28 of the report during which the transaction was made.

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding the acceptance of an excessive contribution(s), prompt action by your committee to seek reattribution, transfer-out or refund the excessive amount will be taken into consideration.

- **2.** A review of the reports filed by your committee (see attached) indicates that your committee received one or more contributions from "Abiomed Inc. PAC" which has not been disclosed on their report(s) of receipts and disbursements. Please provide clarifying information regarding the source of the contribution(s) received by your committee.
- **3.** Please amend your report by providing the address for each disbursement itemized on Schedule B supporting Line(s) 21(b). 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3)
- **4.** Schedule A supporting Line 11(c) discloses a transfer(s)-in from the "Republican National Committee." Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) reflects payments for "signs." Please be advised that a state or local party committee may pay for campaign materials (such as pins, posters, bumper stickers and yard signs) that are distributed by volunteers in connection with activity on behalf of the party's nominees in a general election and for voter drive activity conducted on behalf of the party's Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees. Payments for this type of activity are exempt from the definition of a contribution or expenditure if certain conditions are met. The conditions are that no public advertising may be used, including distribution by direct mail (mailings by a commercial vendor or from commercial lists); all funds used for the activity must be permitted under the Act; none of the funds used may have

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been designated for a particular candidate; and finally, payments for the activity may not be made from transfers-in from the national committee to specifically fund the activity. For further guidance, please refer to 11 CFR § §100.87 and 100.147 and to the Campaign Guide for Party Committees.

Please clarify the nature of the transfer(s)-in and subsequent payments for the aforementioned disbursement(s). If the activity disclosed on your report does not meet the definition of 'exempt' activity as described above and if any portion of the expenditures were made on behalf of specifically identified candidates, that amount must be disclosed on Schedule B, E or F supporting Line 23, 24 or 25 of the Detailed Summary Page as appropriate.

- **5.** Schedule B of your report discloses reimbursements to individuals for "reimbursement." Please be advised that when itemizing reimbursements to individuals for goods or services, if the payment to the original vendor aggregates in excess of \$200 in a calendar year, a memo entry including the name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and purpose of the original purchase must be provided. Please amend your report to include the missing information and clearly identify on the Schedule B, which reimbursement each memo entry relates to. If itemization is not necessary, you must indicate so in an amendment to this report. 11 CFR § \$104.3(b)(3)(i) and 104.9, and Advisory Opinions 1992-1 and 1996-20, footnote 3
- **6.** Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule B supporting Line(s) 21(b) of your report to clarify the following description(s): "candidate operations assistance," "cc," "confulting fee," "consultant fee," "consulting fee," "equip rental," and "event fee." For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action. Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.

<u>Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports)</u> in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than

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just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1173.

Sincerely,

Ashley Carter

Senior Campaign Finance Analyst

Reports Analysis Division

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### Image# 11330016728

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## **Excessive Contribution from an Individual**

**Massachusetts Republican State Congressional Committee (C00042622)** 

Contributor Name	Date	Amount	Report
Patricia Conrades	6/29/10	\$9,000.00	2010 July Monthly
Patricia Conrades	10/28/10	\$3,500.00	2010 30 Day Post-General
David Pietro	10/3/10	\$10,000.00	2010 12 Day Pre-General
David Pietro	10/25/10	\$10,000.00	2010 30 Day Post-General

### Image# 11330016729

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**Contribution Not Disclosed by Donor Committee** 

**Massachusetts Republican State Congressional Committee (C00042622)** 

<b>Contributor Name</b>	Date	Amount	Report
Abiomed Inc. PAC	10/22/10	\$5,000.00	2010 30 Day Post-General